

**Individual Property/District  
Maryland Historical Trust  
Internal NR-Eligibility Review Form**

Property/District Name: Perryville High School/Perryville Middle S Survey Number: CE-1429  
Tax Parcel #:

Project: SP803B45- US 222 at US 40 Agency: State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: Yes SHA Staff Name: Jill Dowling SHA Visit Date: 10/8/97

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Recommended

Criteria: Consideration:

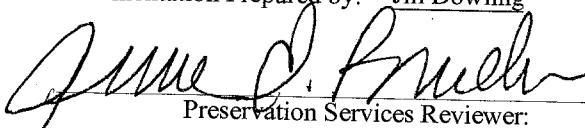
Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Perryville High School, originally constructed in 1928, evolved into Perryville Middle School in response to increasing enrollment and education system reform. The growth required ongoing modifications and expansions to the historic structure, which today constitutes only approximately one-tenth of the overall building. Originally a two story block with a distinguished central entry and decorative brick coursing, the historic section of the building has been altered and engulfed by similarly massed wings on each side, and further extended with a single story section leading east to a massive two story wing. The original interior has been reconfigured several times to accommodate the additions.

The Perryville High School is not associated with significant events or persons and so is not National Register eligible under Criteria A or B. While distinctively an educational structure, the Perryville High School has been so severely modified as to be indistinguishable as a representative example of an early 20th century school and so is not eligible under Criterion C. There is no evidence to indicate that the site has archeological potential, rendering it ineligible under Criterion D.

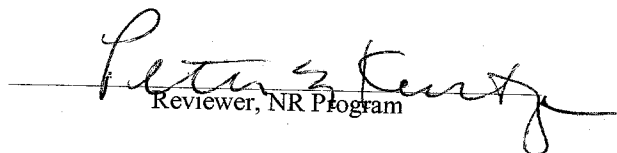
Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Documentation Prepared by: Jill Dowling

  
Preservation Services Reviewer:

1/20/98  
Date

NR program concurrence:

  
Reviewer, NR Program

1/23/98  
Date

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CE-1429

Perryville High School  
name of property  
Cecil County, MD  
county and state

=====

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance  
Modern Period

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Architecture  
Social/Education/Cultural

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function (s): Education/School

Known Design Source: Unknown

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. CE-1429

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Perryville High School  
common/other name Perryville Middle School

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 850 Aiken Avenue not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Perryville vicinity \_\_\_\_\_ state MD  
code \_\_\_\_\_ county Cecil code \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 21903

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

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4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ private  
\_\_\_\_\_ ☒ public-local  
\_\_\_\_\_ public-State  
\_\_\_\_\_ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

\_\_\_\_\_ ☒ building(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_ district  
\_\_\_\_\_ site  
\_\_\_\_\_ structure  
\_\_\_\_\_ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing      Noncontributing

<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_  
No X

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Inventory No. CE-1429  
Page 2

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education Sub: School  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education Sub: School  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Mixed  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Solid: Concrete  
roof Gabled: Asphalt & Flat: Rubber  
walls Brick  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Inventory No. CE-1429

Page 4

=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture, Education  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1928-present  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates 1928  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation Undefined  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Inventory No. CE-1429

Page 5

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Blumgart, Pamela (Ed.), At the Head of the Bay: A Cultural and Architectural History of Cecil County, Maryland. Elkton: The Cecil County Historical Trust, 1996.

*Perryville Middle School - A Historical Introduction-* from the Perryville Faculty Manual, 1996

Personal Interview with Principal Kevin Dougherty and staff, 12/10/97.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 26

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property fronts US 222 and extends south incorporating school fields.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Perryville Middle School faculty confirmed school boundary.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Jill Dowling, Architectural Historian  
organization MD State Highway Administration date 12/17/97  
street & number 707 N. Calvert St. telephone 410-545-8559  
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21201

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12. Property Owner

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name Cecil County Board of Education  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone 410-996-5400  
city or town Elkton state MD zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CE-1429

Section 7 Page 1

Perryville High School  
name of property  
Cecil County, MD  
county and state

=====

Irregular in plan and ranging from one to three stories in height, Perryville High School, today known as Perryville Middle School, is a sprawling brick structure that has been significantly altered from the original two-story square block constructed in 1928. Today, the main entrance of the school is located in the newer south section of the building in a single story span that connects the oldest section with the most modern (and massive) rear wing. The school's total square footage is 94,550.

**Exterior Description:**

The west original facade of the building consists of the central original block with similarly massed 1950s additions flanking each side. To the north, the addition is set back slightly, and the south addition is set slightly forward. Each block has a central door. A pediment distinguishes the original entrance, marked with a rectangular stone reading "Perryville High School 1928."

The staged development of the structure and later modifications have replaced original windows with paired vertical casements, and brick infill creates irregular coursing across the facade. Original brickwork featured stretcher courses mainly in American bond with rows of stretchers on end expressing floor and ceiling levels. Once interesting, the unsympathetic infill and inappropriate repair have significantly compromised the historic appearance of the 1928 structure and the flanking wings.

The structure extends west with a single story span characterized by multiple lights. The modern school entrance is sheltered under a low horizontal roof. The building extends east from the single story section to a massive front gabled modern addition similarly detailed. Behind the main building, several portable trailers have been set up for classes.

The school exists at a commercial corner across the street from a strip mall and next to a store. The broad front lot has mature trees and large bushes obscuring the original facade.



MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CE-1429

Section 8 Page 1

Perryville High School  
name of property  
Cecil County, MD  
county and state

=====

Constructed in 1928, the Perryville High School replaced a building depicted in the 1910 photograph attached, printed in the Cecil County history At the Head of the Bay. At the time of its construction, two schoolrooms existed on each level. A kitchen and gymnasium with locker rooms was added south of the original building in the early fifties, when the Board of Education installed new boilers and a hot water tank.

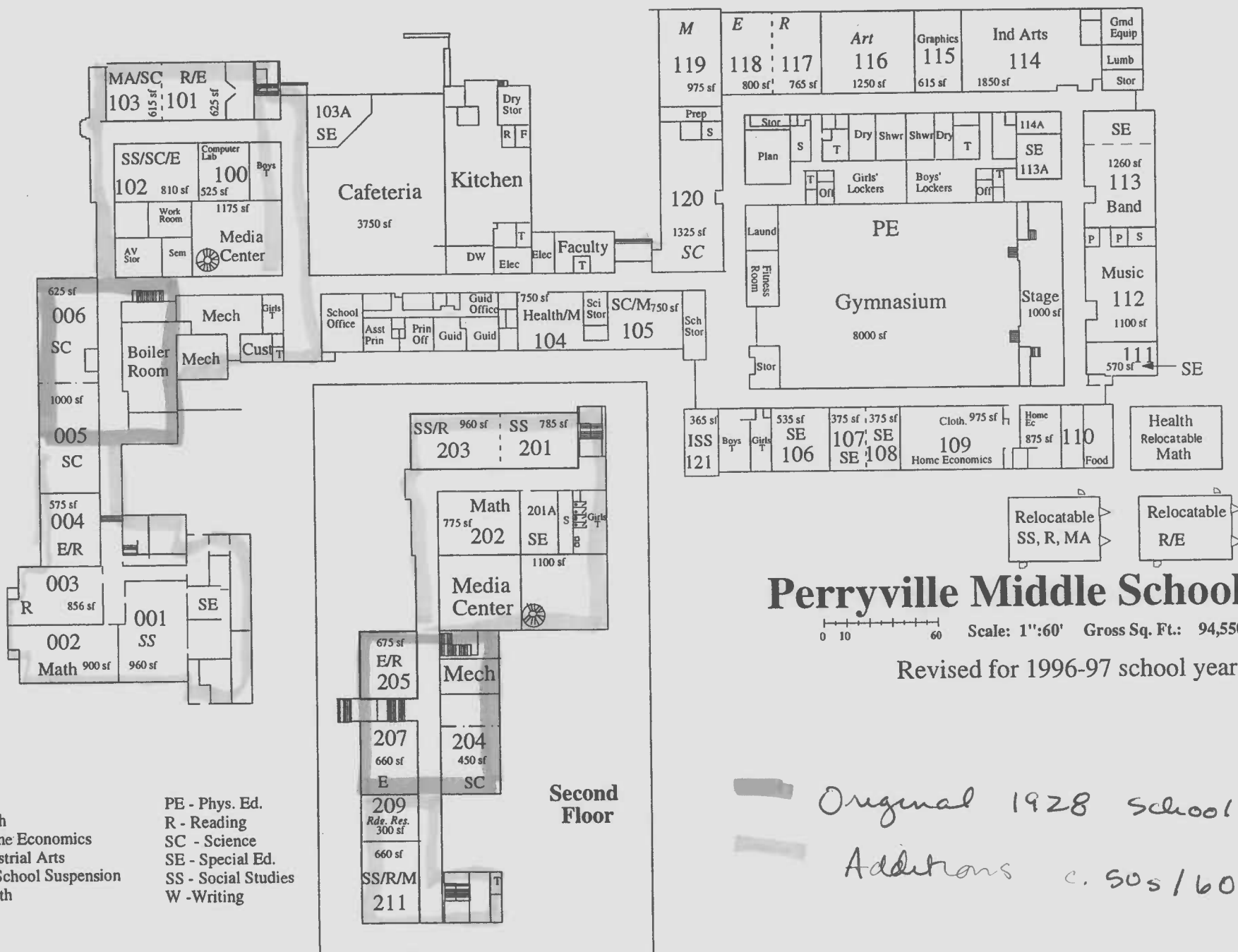
The school's attendance grew steadily until 1977, when it served as the Perryville Junior-Senior High School. With the completion of the new high school in 1977, the middle school concept became a reality in Perryville.

The building was significantly remodeled and added to in 1981 and again in 1991, when the Cecil County Board of Education established new school district boundary lines. In 1991, the school received national recognition as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School.

# Building Plan

CE-1429

III-72



## USAGE

A - Art  
E - English  
HE - Home Economics  
IA - Industrial Arts  
ISS - In-School Suspension  
MA - Math

PE - Phys. Ed.  
R - Reading  
SC - Science  
SE - Special Ed.  
SS - Social Studies  
W - Writing

## Perryville Middle School

0 10 60 Scale: 1"=60' Gross Sq. Ft.: 94,550

Revised for 1996-97 school year.

Original 1928 School

Additions c. 50s/60s

CE-1429



Students learned the virtues of patience, perseverance, and obedience; their fundamental rights as Americans; and their role in the business of American democracy.

By the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the business of America was, quite literally, business. It was the emerging age of the American businessman, whose main concern was to provide a favorable climate for industrial

This photograph of Perryville High School students and their teacher demonstrates the amenities available in schools after the school reform movement of the late 19th century, including light streaming in from what must have been large windows and a radiator to provide heat. (c. 1900) Mildred McGuirk/Cecil Community College

remote from Cecil  
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eighteenth century.  
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horse teams and lat  
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At the Head of the Bay

CE-1429

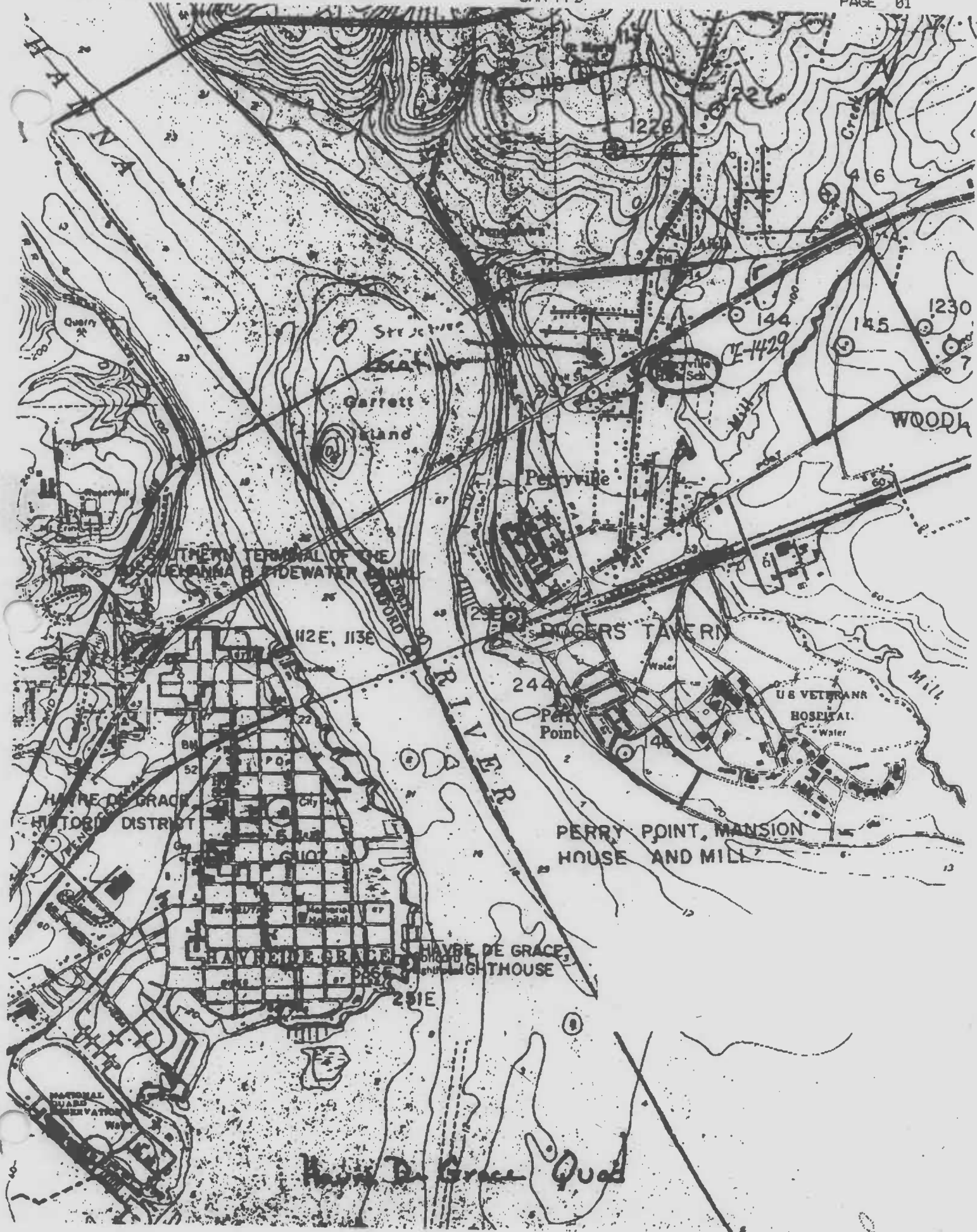
A Cult'l + Arch'l History of Cecil Co MD

Ed: Pamela James Blumgart

Elkton, MD, The Cecil Historical Trust

Crossville MD, The MD Hist. Trust

©1996





CE 1429

PERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CECIL COUNTY, MD

SHA

DECEMBER 1997

MDSHPO

Central original block (elevation)





CE-1429

PERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CERIL CO MD

SHA

DECEMBER 1997

MD SHPO

REAR OF ORIG'L + 1950S ADD'N (WEST FACADE)

5 OF 8



CE-1429

PERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CECIL CO, MD

SHA

DECEMBER, 1997

MDSHPO

DETAIL OF ORIG'L ENTRANCE (WEST FACADE)

2068



CE-1429

PERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CECIL CO MD

SHA

DECEMBER 1997

MDSHPO

NORTH ADD'N (c50s) on WEST FACADE

7 OF 8



CE - 1429

PERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CECIL CO MD

SHA

DECEMBER 1997

MDSHPD

NORTH ELEVATION WITH MASSIVE ADD'N BEYOND

8 OF 8





See MHT vertical file  
for additional photos

CE-1429  
PERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
CECIL CO MD  
SHA  
DECEMBER 1997  
MDSHPD  
REAR OF SOUTH ADD'N / WEST FACADE  
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